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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

NIC 1619-83
1 March 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution

FROM : Milton Kovner
: National Intelligence Officer for Western Europe

SUBJECT : Warning Report: Western Europe

1. Attached is my report to the DCI based on our meeting held on 23 February 1983. If there are any significant amendments or additions to your views as I have reported them, please let me know. (U)

2. Next month's warning meeting will be on Wednesday, 23 March 1983 at 1015 in room 7-E-62, CIA Headquarters. Please have your clearances passed and call [] with names of the attendees [] by noon, 22 March 1983. (U)

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3. I also encourage you to phone in suggestions for the agenda and proposals to make opening presentations. It would be helpful to have your comments for the next meeting by Monday, 15 March 1983. (U)

Mil
Milton Kovner

Attachment
a/s

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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

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NIC No. 1619-83
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH : National Intelligence for Warning

FROM : Milton Kovner
: National Intelligence Officer for Western Europe

SUBJECT : Monthly Warning Assessment: Western Europe

West Germany

1. Analysts believe that the most likely outcome of the March 6 Bundestag elections will be a Kohl-led government, and that the FDP will remain a coalition partner of the CDU-CSU. The large number (20 percent) of undecided voters in recent opinion polls, however, along with the small number of voters that could decide whether the FDP or the Greens gain the 5 percent threshold for parliamentary representation, make some analysts cautious in predicting a clear conservative or conservative-liberal victory. Whatever the outcome, the new government will be under pressure to seek US movement away from the zero option as the immediate goal of the Geneva INF negotiations.

France

2. In the municipal elections on March 6 and 13 Socialists and Communists are expected to lose some of the unprecedented gains in mayoral and city council posts they registered in the 1977 elections. Recent polls suggest that losses may not be so high as feared earlier by the Left, and analysts agreed that if losses were contained to less than 30-40 posts, the outcome would not be

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interpreted as a major defeat for the government. The relative performance of Socialists and Communists could be significant in the context of a large overall setback for the Left. Socialist gains at Communist expense could fuel arguments within the PCI for moving into opposition; heavy Socialist losses are likely to increase internal party pressures for a return to more "radical" domestic policies by the government. Mitterrand appears determined, however, to persist on a course of relative economic austerity; and, whatever the election result, foreign policy is likely to remain essentially unchanged.

Cyprus

3. Although President Kyprianou won a decisive victory in the recent presidential election on the basis of an unprecedented alliance with AKEL, the pro-Moscow Cypriot Communist party, AKEL is expected to exert only marginal impact on the domestic or foreign policies of Cyprus. The Communist vote proved relatively stable at about one-third of the electorate, but Kyprianou's centrist Democratic Party still holds the balance between left and right in the Cypriot legislature. Moreover, AKEL, apparently with Moscow's blessing, does not intend to make demands for important government posts -- although it does hope to increase infiltration of ministries at lower levels. On the "Cyprus question," Kyprianou will seek internationalization of the problem but will also continue the inter-communal talks. Kyprianou's immediate concern is to retain Greek Prime Minister Papandreou's support for the inter-communal negotiations.

Greece

4. The State Department representative briefed on the status and prospects of the US-Greek base negotiations, noting that the fourth round of the current talks is to begin at the end of the month. The most recent policy problem was to bridge, without adverse impact on the talks, the announcement of sizable US military assistance to Turkey in fiscal 1984 and the virtual straightlining of aid to Greece at levels approximating those of the last two years. It was evident from the moderate tone of Papandreou's letter to President Reagan and his, on the whole, positive reaction to the President's reply, that he, too, felt it in the mutual interest to dampen public reaction to the disparity in projected aid levels. Most analysts believed that, despite Papandreou's recurrent assertions that the bases do not serve Greek interests and should be removed, he continues to place principal over principle with respect to the bases, and that US willingness to provide levels of assistance which he deems adequate will be the determining factor in the negotiating outcome.


Milton Kovner

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Wynfred Joshua
DIO/DIA
Room 2C-238, Pentagon

James C. Nelson
Director EUR/CAN
Rm. 5227
New State

[REDACTED]
DIA, DE-4
Room 1022, Pomponio Plaza

Robert D. Blackwill
Deputy Asst. Secretary for EUR
Rm. 6226
New State

25X1

Robert P. Myers
O/ACSI, DA
DAMI-FII
Room 2E453, Pentagon

James F. Dobbins
Deputy Assistant Secretary for EUR
Rm. 6226
New State

Andrew B. Cook (pass copy to:
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Mark Palmer
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Rm. 6219
New State

Kenedon Steins
OS/OIS, Room 4321
Main Treasury Building

John C. Kornblum
Director EUR/CE
Rm. 4232
New State

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[REDACTED]
Chief G-5, Room 3A-190
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